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THE POLICY OF HOME RULE.

THE LOUISIANA COMMISSION. ARRIVAL AT NEW-ORLEANS-CONFERENCES WITH THE LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH CON-

TENDING PARTIES. The Louisiana Commission reached New-Orleans yesterday, and promptly set at work to become acquainted with the position of affairs, and with the feelings of business men and of leaders of the contending factions. In conferences with both Packard and Nicholls, the plan of a compromise Legislature, to consist of those members concerning whose election there is no dispute, was proposed, but was acceptable to neither. Packard demands absolute recognition and support; Nicholls asks only that the troops be withdrawn to barracks. The Commission are hopeful that their efforts will succeed. At a large mass meeting of citizens resolutions were adopted welcoming the Commission, expressing confidence in President Hayes and setting forth in detail their reasons for supporting the Nicholls Govern-

THE COMMISSION AT WORK.

CONSULTATIONS WITH BOTH NICHOLLS AND PACKARD -OPPOSITION OF BOTH TO A COMPROMISE LEG-ISLATURE-PACKARD'S DEMAND FOR RECOGNI-TION AND FEDERAL SUPPORT.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] New-Orleans, April 6.-The Commission began work to-day with great industry. They spent the forenoon talking with a large number of people and visiting the Cotton Exchange. At noon they attended, as individual lookers-on, an immense gathering of business men, held to impress them with the unanimity of the support given Gov. Nicholls by that class. At 2:30 they drove to the St. Louis Hotel, where they held interviews for over an hour with leaders of the Packard party. There were present, besides the Commission and the Governor, a committee composed of Messrs. McMillian, Leonard, Ray, and Burch. In this interview and in a subsequent one with leaders of the Nicholls party, the Commission, acting under its instructions, endeavored to call the attention of the contending parties to the need finding some common ground of undoubted legality on which to begin the work of organizing a single government. They stated that the most feasible plan was to obtain a Legislature every member of which should be recognized on both sides as having an undoubted right to a seat. Of 36 Senators 33 are absolutely uncontested, and of 120 Representatives 104 are in the same position. The Commission proposed to assemble these unchallenged members and form a new Legislature. Gov. Packard dechined to accede to this project, and insisted on his prompt recognition as his legal right. He a proclamation similar to that issued by Gen. Grant in 1872, declaring him the lawful Governor and his Legislature the lawful Legislature, and ordering all persons contemplating resistance to disperse. He said if this were issued and the troops remained he would soon make his authority recognized throughout the State. Packard claimed to be exercising a good deal of authority outside New-Orleans, which Nicholls denies that he possesses. In this respect the Commission found great contradiction in the statements of the

two parties. Packard insisted with warmth that

his title to the Governorship is as good as that of Hayes to the Presidency.

The commission proceeded at 4 o'clock to Odd Fellows Hall, and found Gov. Nicholls in his office in few other prominent men of the Conservative party. A full conversation took place, lasting nearly two hours, in which the whole situation was gone over, all the gentlemen present joining in suggestions argument, and general talk. Gov. Nicholls stated that his authority was undisputed throughout the State except within the St. Louis Hotel; 13 out of Secretary of State, and one more had applied for his counted as for Packard. The undisputed collection of taxes was urged as proof of the acceptance of the Nicholls Government. All that was asked from the President was the withdrawal of the troops, not from the State, but from the building adjoining the State House. Their presence there was characterized as irritative, because it gave some people the idea that the Packard Government was under the protection of the United States. The interview was informal and private, but it is understood that Gov. Nichells assured the Commission that he would use no force against Packard if the troops were withdrawn to their barracks, but would let the rival Government die of inanition. The Commission urged as a solution of the difficulty the convening of a mutual Legislature composed of all members whose elections are conceded by both sides. It is reported that Nicholls and his friends declared that the thing could not be done, their reason being that it would be to admit the nullity of their Legislature. The Nicholls Legislature has been granting franchises and passing laws making important changes in municipal and parish organizations which have gone into effect. These acts might all be confirmed by a compromise Legislature; but it appears that Gov. Nicholls is not willing to take the risk and to admit that they need to be validated. The solution proposed by the Nicholls party was a simple order withdrawing the troops to their barracks. Gentlemen who participated in the interview say that the position of the Nicholls party was that this is not a case requiring the President to recognize one Government or the other, because the conflict of authority is created by the presence of a faction that is herelin an unconstitutional way, viz., the troops. If, after they should be withdrawn, there should be rival Governments, then the Nicholls party admit that, under the Luther and Bonden decision, the Presi-

dent could lawfully interpose his decision. This evening the Commission heard a committee of the Packard Legislature, and to-morrow morning they will hear a committee from the Nicholis Legislature. The Commissioners appear hopeful of bringing about a settlement by means of a united Legislature, in spite of the refusal to-day of both sides to

GOV. PACKARD'S CLAIMS.

DETAILS OF HIS CONFERENCE WITH THE COMMIS-SION.

New-Orleans, La., April 6 .- The Louisiana ssion, Messrs. Lawrence, Brown, Hawley, Harlan, and MacVeagh, this morning, by special invitation, visited the Cotton Exchange, accompanied by Gen. Bussey and ex-Congressman Levy, where they remained for some Shortly before 3 o'clock the members of the Exchange.

tion waited upon Gov. Packard, in the Executive office at the State House. The interview lasted over an hour. At first the discussion was extremely formal, but on the commission expressing a wish for a free inter change of views, Gov. Packard assented, but etipulated that the stenographers who had accom-Panied the commission should be requested to This was acceded to. The discussion was opened by the comprehensive question addressed to Gov. Packard : What do you ask the President to do, and what are your reasons for so requesting ! In reply to this inquiry Gov. Packard made a brief statement of the oration of his Legislature with a Returning Board orum in each house, and the canvass by that body on the day named and in the way prescribed the Consti-tution, of the votes for Governor and Lieutenant-Gover-nor. This brought up the decision on the Luther against Borden case referred to in the Secretary of State (Evarts) letter of instructions to the commission, and Gov. Pack-

ard's letter to the President, which was telegraphed yes-

A map was produced by Gov. Packard, showing a very large area of the State presided over by Republican District Judges who, he claimed, had to a man refused to acknowledge the authority of Gov. Nicholls, or to enforce the mandates of his Supreme Court. The names of the nativity were attached to the map, the great majority of the judges being natives of the State. This led to a discussion of the resolution recently passed by the Nicholls Legislature impeaching Judge Fortelieu, one of the na-Nicholls Government, and 'a messenger was dispatched for a copy of those articles of impeachment. It was claimed by Packard that nearly all the officials in these districts had qualified and obtained their commissions under Gov. Kellogg, but many of them, as a measure precaution, had since filed an oath of office with the Nicholls Secretary of State.

The members of the commission then took hold of the discussion, and inquired especially as to the feasibility of uniting the undisputed members of the two Legisla tures in one body.

Gov. Packard replied that he had not consulted any member of the Legislature on this subject, but he be-lieved it to be entirely impracticable. He did not think the Democrats would consent to any such arrangement. In answer to a question, Gov. Packard said that he was satisfied, if recognized by the President and reinstated in possession of the court buildings, arsenals, and arms, of which he contended he had been illegally despoiled, and accorded the moral support of the National Government. he could sustain himself without the intervention of United States troops.

The commission in leaving were escorted to the street cars by Gen. McMillan, and expressed themselves gratified with the interview. They left to wait upon Gov. Nicholis at Odd Fellows, Hall. At half past 7 in the evening a committee, consisting of A. H. Leonard of Sareveport, John Ray of Ounchita, and J. H. Burch (colored) of Baton Rouge, appointed by Gov. Packard, met the commission at the St. Charles Hotel by appoint-

Court are to present legal arguments in support of their claims to the Supreme Court of the State.

WELCOME TO THE COMMISSION ..

MASS MEETING OF NEW-ORLEANS CITIZENS-WRONGS IN THE PAST AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE-CON-FIDENCE IN THE PRESIDENT—CEASELESS OFFO-SITION TO PACKARD.

NEW-ORLEANS, April 6 .- A very large mass meetng of the citizens of New-Orleans was held at Lafayette-square to-day. It is estimated that from 10,000 to 15,000 persons were present. The following resolutions were adopted:

We, the citizens of New-Orleans, in mass meeting as sembled, representing as we firmly believe, the senti ments of a large majority of the people of Louisiana, proclaiming anew our devotion to the Constitution of the United States and our unqualified acceptance of all the amendments thereto, asserting that in loyalty to our reëstablished union and in true rational patriotism, we do not yield to the people of any section of our common country as we stand ready to prove by any test, declaring our earnest desire to obliterate the feelings of sectional bitterness which were left as the result of the late unhappy war, and to reunite the whole people of the United States in a common bond of brotherhood, equally desirous of breaking down the barriers of prejudice and distrust which designing political tricasters have from base motives reared between the white and colored citizens of the State, and to reëstablish the relations of the two races upon a basis of just laws, equal rights, common protection, and harmonious and kindly sentiments to ward each other. Profoundly impressed with the gravity of the crisis through which our State is passing, and the feeling that we should publicly proclaim our sentiments touching the same, we do hereby adopt the following resolutions:

First: That the right of local self-government is the fundamental principle of our republican system; that it company with Gen. Gibson, Major Burke, and a is the inalienable privilege of every state in this Union, deprived of which a State ceases to exist as such in a stitutional sense and becomes a mere province of an

aller government. Second: That for four years the people of Louisiana have lived under a usurping government never elected by the people of the State, never voluntarily acquiesce ! in, established originally and maintained throughout its career by the mintary power of the Federal Government, 18 district judges had filed oaths of office with his and different from a direct military government only in name and in the particular of its greater extravagance pay. Packard's claim of recognition by parish officers and unbrided corruption, utter unfitness of persons in was based on the fact that many held over under trusted with its administration, its contemptible weak-Kellogg's commission, and being Republicans were ness and inability to enforce the laws or to protect the the greater hatred and contempt with which it was regarded by the people.

Third: That the results of this usurpation have been to destroy happiness and prosperity, to foreint discord and disorder, to lessen respect for law and government, to encourage violations of the rights of person and property, to repress all business enterprise, to impair confilence, and almost to annihilate the value of property. That whatever of enterprise in business, value in prop crty, cohesion in society, or contentment in life have surived this unhappy condition of affairs are due solely to the confident hope that the late election in our State would result in restoring its government to the contra of its people; and if that hope shall now be disappointed we see nothing in the future but anarchy, ruin, and de-

Fourth: That the government of which Francis T. Nicholls is the head is the constitutional government of the State of Louislana, elected by a majority of more than 7,000 votes, fully organized in all its parts, exercising the only governmental functions that are exercised in the State, making and enforcing laws, administering justice, collecting revenues, and pre serving the peace and order of society; that there is not within the limits of the an officer exercising any actual authority, ex-cept those whose official titles are recognized by the Government, because daly elected; that many of those elected as Republicans have already recognized the true Government, and those who have not yet done so will hasten to recognize it as soon as Federal interference shall cease; that this Government is not only capable of perpetuating itself and enforcing its authority, but that it would encounter no resistance, nor even a desire to resist on the part of any portion of the people, except an insignificant clique of ambitious policians, with a small following of ignorant dupes.

Fifth: That the pretended Government of which S. B. Packard claims to be head is a mere simulaerum, without body or substance; offspring of a legislative conspiracy of the late usurpers to perpetuate their power in deflance of the will of the people as expressed at the ballot-box by fraudulent manipulation of returns, that it does not and cannot command the moral or physical support of any considerable portion of the people; that it exercises and is capable of exercinone of the functions of government, and that its authority is recognized nowhere outside of the limits of a single building in the State; that if hope of Federal interference were withdrawn it would disband without the uplifting of an arm against it; that it presents not a single title to respect or confidence, and that an attempt to establish and maintain it by the military power of the United States would be not only an outrage on constitutional liberty but the greatest crime against civilization

that has been witnessed in the nineteenth century. Sixth: That the people of Louiriana observed with deep satisfaction the conservative sentiments expressed in the inaugural address of President Hayes, and hailed them as omens of a return to constitutional methods of government under the observance of which the affairs of Louisiana would arrange themselves speedily and peacefully, and need give the Federal Government no greater soncern than the affairs of New-York or Massachusetts; that by the adoption of such a policy he would confer an inestimable benefit upon the whole nation as well as upon this State, and would earn the respect and gratitude of the people of the United States, and especially of the people of Louisiana; that notwithstanding the disappointing delay which has intervened, we appreciate the difficulties of his position and have not lost confidence in the sincerity of his declarations and the

rectitude of his intentions. Screnth : That the eminent gentlemen who are about to visit us by invitation of the President be heartily welcomed and extended every facility in their labors, assuming that they are impartial citizens, who come here only for the legitimate purpose of asserting what Government is actually administering the affairs of the State, receives the support of the people, and is capable of sus-taining itself and preserving order; but that we are

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1877.-WITH SUPPLEMENT.

unalterably opposed to any compromise, the effect of which could be to put into office men who were not elected, or to depose any duly elected officer of State, or to impair the existing autonomy of the Nichells Govern-

Eighth: That the officers and soldiers of the United States army, while engaged in the performance of their lawful and patriotic duties, are ever welcome guests upon the soil of Louisiana; that their services, however, are not proper in the preservation of the peace, except in well-defined contingencies, which have not arisen in Louisiana; that the existing government of the State is fully capable of maintaining the peace, which is not threatened by any persons except those who invoke the aid of the troops to protect them in its disturbance, that we ask nothing of the President except to withdraw them from the upolding of a pretended government, and the performance of his plain constitutional duty of non-interference except in case of domestic insurrection beyond the control of the constituted authorities, which does not exist, and whiich we pledge ourselves shall not exist in the State of

Ninth: That the people of Louisiana, wearled with disord and strife, if not disturbed in the control of their Government, will demand nothing but peace and obedience to constituted authority; that they will yield to no spirit of revenge or persecution for past political offenses; that by fostering the interests of all people, extending the benefits of education to all classes, cultivating a spirit of toleration, quaranteeing the equal protection of just laws to every citizen, promoting harmony and good feeling among the people, and by wise and economical administration we believe the Nicholls Government will secure the end of all governments, the peace, happiness, and prosperity of the people.

Tenth : That we are well aware that a large portion of our colored fellow-citizens are at heart as devoted to the Nicholis Government as the whole white people of the State, and that they are only restrained from manifest ing it by a system of intimidation and persecution by the worst elements of our people, to which they have too long submitted, and we call upon them to throw off this condage and rally with us to the support of the only Government that can secure their happiness and prosperity in common with our own, pledging ourselves to maintain their equal rights as citizens, and to secure to them their full share of all the benefits of just Govern-

Eleventh : Finally, that with a deep sense of responsibility, with a full recognition of all our obligations as citizens of the Union, in no spirit of threatening or braggadocia, with a profound cansciousness of the power of he Federal Government and of our inability to resist it, but with the conviction that no calamity can possibly befall us more considerable than the ruin and disgrace of longer subjection to usurpation, we evoke the considerate judgment of the American people upon the resolutions which we here selemnly declare: Never to submit to the pretended Packard govornment; never to pay it a dollar of taxes; never to acknowledge its authority, but to resist it at every point and la every way, and to require that every demand wideh it ma make upon the obedience of the citizens shall be enforced only by a present physical power, which we are capable of resisting.

We appeal to the President to stand firm to the just and constitutional policy of non-interference, and we trent the people of the United States to sustain and encourage, and if need be, by the mighty power of public opinion to enforce the adoption of that policy.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pillsbury, who called J. A. Rozier to preside. Mr. Rozier made a short address. Speeches were made by J. H. New, T. J. Semmes, Chas. E. Fenner, P. B. S. Pinchback, and T. T. Allan.

Stores occupied by colored persons were generally closed during the progress of the meeting.

METHODIST CONFERENCES.

POLITICS IN THE NEW-ENGLAND CONFERENCE. Boston, April 6 .- The New-England Conence of the Methodist Episcopal Church reassembled at 8:45 o'clock this morning. The Committee on the State of the Country, to whom was re-ferred the political resolutions offered on Wednesday, by the Rev. Dr. Malfalieu, reported through the chairman, the Rev. L. R. Thayer, D. D., a series of resolutions as a substitute for those of Dr. Mollaliieu. The new resolutions extended the sympathy of the conference to President Hayes, and stated that as legalized slavery had been annihilated the sympathy of all members of the conference should also be given to the colored people in efforts to obtain their social and political rights. Immediately upon the reading of the resolutions, the Rev. Dr. Malialien advocated the adoption of the resolutions which he had himself presented, and called upon the members of the conference to express their opinions. He said it was his belief that if United States troops had not been stationed in will defeat a wise public policy for the enforcement of South Carolina, Louisiana, and Florida, Saumel J. Tuden would have been President of the United States. Mr. Tilden was compared to the traitor Aaron and the speaker said that he (Tilden) Burr and the speaker said that he (110001) would have been elected had not U. S. Grant, that man of iron, true to right and country, sprung forward and secred the raging Southern lien right in the midst of his mane. The speaker related his experience, showing like intentions of the Wade Hampton movement, and stated that continued appreciation of the colored people would foilow from the withdrawal of the troops. He denounced the "trade" which had like would with Wade Hampton, and carnestly ediled

THE NEW-YORK CONFERENCE. RONDOUT, N. Y., April 6 .- In the New-York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church t the White Plains matter was settled by the adoption of an amended resolution offered by the Rev. A. M. Os born. The resolution recommended that the paster and congregation of the First Church of White Plains discontinue service in Moran Hall, and that both churches in conflict seek to unite. Rev. Isane J. Lansing, agent for The Rev. Isaac J. Lansing, agent for the Freedmen's Aid Society, made an address reciting the wrongs of the colored race in the South and declaring that the white people are opposed to their education. Curistian ministers in the South refused to fraternize with him because he worked to educate the blacks. He Caristian ministers in the South refused to fraternize with him because he worked to educate the blacks. He said fraternicy North and South had different meanings. Roman Catholies are expending thousands of deliars among the blacks at the South. They dread no color line. Methodists South dread a color line. Catholies meant to control the votes of the Southern blacks, and the Methodist Church North is the only power that can meet and baffle it. Methodists must go at this work in earnest if success is desired, and not drive ine subject out of the pulpit as now. The kev. Dr. Crawford invited the Conference to meet next year in New-York, which was accepted, and the designation of a cnurch left to the presiding Elder. To morrow the dispated question of dividing the Poughkeepsie district comes any

DEFICIT IN THE PHILADELPHIA TAX OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA, April 6.-A considerable deficit has been discovered in the accounts of Theodore Hanel, a clerk in the office of the Receiver of Taxes. There is reason to believe that the amount is about \$50,000, and has been used in speculation. The embezzlement has been in progress since about the beginning of March. City Solicitor Collis, who has charge of the matter, is very reticent as to the facts of the case, and little information can be gained at present.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

WINDSOR, Vt., April 6.—Phair's execution has been extroned to the 4th of May. St. Louis, April 5.—The Texas cattle drive for he coming season is estimated at 250,000 head.

TRENTON, April 6.—Daniel B. Bodine was this yearing nominated for Mayer of the City of Trenton by the NEW-ORLEANS, April 6.—Charles Del Bondis,

SAN FRANCISCO, April 6.—The great decline in overman and Bullion mining stock to-day is accounted for by n assessment of \$5 on the former and \$2 on the latter.

an assessment of \$5 on the former and \$2 on the latter.

HELENA, Montana, April 6.—Gov. Potts denies the truth of the charges filed against him with the Secretary of the Interior, and has demanded a full investigation.

LOWELL, Mass., April 6.—Mrs. Eliza Strout of Chelmsford, Mass., who was bitten by a dog some time ago, died to-day of hydrophobia after intense suffering.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., April 6.—Orders were received from Washington to-day discharging all hands in the construction and steam-engineering department of this navy-vard.

ST. JOHN, N. B., April 6.—Mills & Jags, ship-owners and brokers of this city, have failed. Their property will be placed in the hands of a trustee for the benefit of the creditors. Their habilities are \$100,000.

BOSTON, Mass., April 6.—Joe Baldwin and Joe Adams, who were arrested in New-York for robbing J. N. Farrar of \$5,000 have reached here and been fully identified by the woman in charge of the saloon where the robbery occurred.

WASHINGTON.

THE WHISKY FRAUDS. PROSECUTIONS TO BE PRESSED AGAINST THE BONDS-

MEN OF CONVICTED REVENUE OFFICERS. WASHINGTON, April 6 .- Assistant Secretary French having submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury a test case of compromise, with the request that he be informed as to the policy to be pursued by the department in such cases, has received a reply, of which the following is an extract:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, April 5, 1877. The offer is \$1,000 by sureties on a gauger's bond in satisfaction of their liabilities upon a judgment of \$10,000, the amount of the bond. No question is made but that the principal had violated the terms of his bond -had been proven guilty of a criminal breach of the law and of the conditions of his bond, and had been convicted and sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment and a fine. Suit was commenced upon his bond and judgment was entered by confession. There are no extenuating circumstances in favor of the principal of the bond except the guilty participation of many others in his crime. This crime was a wholesale fraud and conspiracy, involving the loss of many millions of public revenue and wide betrayal of public trust, that threatened the utter subversion of the revenue laws. If a case ever occurred of open daring and palpable violation of public duty it was this conspiracy known as the St. Louis Whisky Ring. The sureties are admitted on all hands to be free from the fraud and crime of their principal, but they did assume a pecuniary liability for him, and in law are holden to the full extent of their bond. They asserted their ability to pay the bond by signing it, and their legal liability is fixed by the judgment. Their legal duty is to pay the bend, and the Secretary ought not to relieve them from this hability except for clear and conclusive reasons. The reasons given by them are-

First: That they have not property subject to execution. If so, the United States has no remedy upon them. and they are not likely to suffer. When they signed the bond they "justified" themselves as able to pay the amount. Mere insolvency is not a sufficient excuse for a release from a penal bond, and their insolvency occurring since the policy of the bond is not sufficiently explained in the papers; and if it were, in my view it would not

Second: That their principal was pardoned for the erime of which he was convicted. The power of pardon rests with the President, and considerations may impel him to grant a pardon from imprisonment that will not apply to a pecuniary obligation. At all events, the granting of a pardon by him is no: an argument for the release of a pecuniary liability by the Secretary, for the President may have supposed the pecuniary liability was

tillers for the taxes lost by the gauger's crime.

a sufficient punishment. Third: That judgments were rendered against the dis-

answer is that these judgments have never been satisfied, and besides no one can say that all the judgments combined measure the loss of the Government by this conspiracy. The real question presented turns upon the powers conferred on the Secretary by Section 3,469 of the Revised Statutes, which is as follows: "Upon a report by a District-Attorney, or any special attorney or agent having charge of any claim in favor of the United States, showing in detail the condition of such claim, and the terms upon which the same may be compromised, and recommending that it compromised upon the terms so offered, the recommendation of the Solicitor of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to compromise such claim accordingly. But the provisions of this section shall not apply to any claim arising under the postal laws." This section confers a great power upon the Secretary of the Treasury, and is an apat to his discretion. The recommendations of the District-Attorney and the Solicitor of the Trensury are necessary to give him jurisdetion and power in the matter. They neither eacht to control his jud-ment nor does the law allow him to avoid his responsibility because their recommendation has given him jurisdiction. He must not yield to mere sympathy, but must be governed by substantial justice and public policy. The section was manifestly intended to give a remedy by compromise for technical violations of law, for mere neglect or inadvertence, and, perhaps, for excessive penaltics, but admitted crimes and plain legal and just liabilities should not be compromised, especially in revenue cases where the result of fraud entails heavy losses of revenue. The tax or whisky is so large in proportion to the value of the artiele manufactured that it forulshes the strongest tempta the strict enforcement of the law. The law is severe in its penalties, and must be severely enforced. This is recognized in all countries where a similar excise is levied. A natural sympathy for the defendants who are sureties will not justify the Secretary the Revenue laws. This is not a more claim, such as is contemplated by the section, but is a judgment confessed upon a bond clearly violated by the commission of a great crime by the principal. If the judgment cannot be collected these persons are not injured, while the re-lease of the judgment would be of evil example. If the Secretary errs in this, Congress can grant the necessary relief. If the law is wrong, or too severe, Congress can remedy it; but charged as he is with the execution of the Revenue laws, the Secretary must insist upon their strict enforcement, and must refuse to yield to appeals to relieve these defendants from their liability. Very re-JOHN SHERMAN, Secretary.

FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS. THE INFLUENCE OF EIGHT YEARS' SERVICE-CAM-

REDUCTIONS IN THE TREASURY.

PAIGN SPEAKERS WAITING FOR RECOGNITION-

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TELBUNE.]

Washington, April 6 .- Some misapprehension seems to exist in regard to the Presidential policy toward Federai office-holders who have served for eight consecutive years. It has been reported that he has adopted, as a general rule of the civil service, that when an official has served two entire terms he should presumptively be removed on the ground that he has had his share. This is incorrect. The policy in this regard was mentioned in a letter to THE TRIBUNE about two weeks ago. An officer who has served a single term, and who has given satisfaction by his efficiency and faithfulness, is to be considered presumptively entitled to reappointment. One who has served eight years is to be more in the position of a new applicant, although faithful and efficient service will be taken into account as one reason why he should be reappointed, all other things being equal. In the reorganization of the custom-houses of the country the President will probably begin with New-York. The President has already given the subject much attention, and intends that the custom-houses of the entire country shall be conducted strictly on business principles, and be placed in charge of men who will not make politics a more prominent part of the business than attending to the duties of their offices.

The number of office-seekers who haunt the White, House and departments is already perceptibly diminish ing, although the applications are still sufficiently numerous to occupy a great portion of the time devoted by the President and his Cabinet to receiving visitors. Among those still waiting are several prominent gentle men who spent the entire Summer and Fall of last year in it aking campaign speeches, and who are beginning to get impatient that their claims for official recognition are not attended to. One of them, who probably made as many speeches as any other campaign orator, remarked to-day that, while civil service reform was a very good thing to talk about, everybody who had had any experience in the conduct of an administration must know that it would not do to ignore the claims of those who had labored most faithfully to secure the election of the Republican ticket. If such people, he said, were not to be recognized, he for one should go home and in future would have nothing to do with politics. He disclaimed desiring any office him self, but said that he had some friends to whom he was under great obligations, and whom he expected to be provided for. Meanwhile it is understood that the President will fill no offices until vacancies occur, and, even if he attends only to those cases in which commissions have expired, and undertakes to inform himself as to the facts in regard to each of these, his time will be entirely occupied until Congress meets on the 4th of June.

The report which seems to have gained some currency, that the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Mr. Mc Cormick) intends to reorganize the clerical force of that Department, is entirely without foundation in fact. Gov. McCormick estered upon the duties of his office only two or three days ago, and his time thus far has been wholly occupied by callers who have desired to see him

either in regard to appointments or touching the bustdepartment. Secretary Sherman sends ever ness of the department. Secretary Sherman sends every one who calls upon him to consult about the personnel of the Treasury Department to Gov. McCormick, and the number of those who have thus far had interviews with him has been about 300 a day. Under these circumstances it has, of course, been impossible for him to give much attention to the organization of the department, and he has at present no idea of making any very important changes. There are of course certain reforms necessary, to which he will give his attention at an early day.

necessary, to which he will give his attention at an early day.

Applications for office, in the Treasury as well as in other departments, are almost useless, because it will be necessary to reduce rather than increase the clerical force now employed there. Very few persons have any idea of the extent to which reductions in this department have been made during the last three years. The number of clerks who have been dismissed, without the appointment of others in their places, since 1874, is in the neighborhood of 1,000, and during the same time the reduction of the force in the Bureau of Engraving and Printine has been about as great. A further reduction in the Bureau of Engraving is still to take place, and a majority of those who have daily called upon the Assistant Secretary have been either persons now employed there and who desire to be retained, or those who have heretofore been dismissed but who wish to be reinstated. Appointments in this bureau have under former administrations been made by its chief; hereafter all the appointments in the Department, including this bureau, will be made by the Secretary and Assistant Secretary. A board, consisting of three officers of the Treasary Department, will be appointed, to whom all applicants for places in the Bureau of Engraving and Frinting will be referred, and no case will be considered either by Secretary Sherman or Gov. McCormick until a report has been made by this board. Of course the principles of civil service reform already will be considered either by Secretary Sherman or Gov. McCormick until a report has been made by this board. Of course the principles of civil service reform already announced will be applied to this bureau as well as to others, he scope of the investigations being similar to that in private companies doing the same character of work.

> CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. AN AMUSING LETTER OF JOHN ADAMS'S. WASHINGTON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

Apropos of President Hayes's intention of remaining in Washington during the Summer is a letter written by John Adams, President of the United States, dated Quincy, Mass., 1789, addressed to Gen. Forest. It was presented on Wednesday to the Washington Oldest Inhabitants' Society by Geo. A. Green. From the tenor of this letter it would appear that Gen. Forest had informed President Adams that public sentiment required that he should reside at the seat of government, and had advised him to do so. John Adams replied:

Should be very happy if it were in my power to comply Should be very happy if it were in my power to comply with your advice, not so much on account of any real-public utility as in compilance with what you call the public scattment. I have reason to believe, however, that this sentiment is chiefly in Philadelphia and Georgetown. The people elected me to administer the Government, it is true, and I do administer there'at Quiacy as really as I would do at Philadelphia. The Secretaries of State, Treasury, War, Navy, and the Attorney-Goneral transmit me daily by the post all the business of consequence, and nothing is done without my advice and airctions when I am here thore than when I am in the city with them. The post goes very rapidly, and I answer by the return of it, so that nothing escapes or is lost.

SENATOR DORSEY TRUE TO HAYES.

Senator Dorsey, whose name has been connected with the threatened treachery of Southern Republicans on account of President Hayes's new policy, alled at the White House to-day. He assured the Pres ident that he had not determined to act with the Demperats hereafter, nor should be oppose a liberal policy toward the South. A similar policy has been highly successful in Arkansas, and is very popular with all classes of citizens, Republicans as well as Democrats. Senator Gariand, he said, whose election was the result of it, is a good Administration man, although a Democrat, and peace and prosperity such as Arkansas has never seen since the war has provailed there ever since military interference in the affairs of the State ended. Scanfor Dorsey assured the President that he not only heped that a similar course wand produce like results in other Southern States, but that he should do everything in his power to insure its success.

A FOUR PER CENT BOND SUGGESTED.

The continued success of the 412 per cent funding loan has suggested to the Secretary of the Treas-ory the possibility of sching bonds to Europe at even a lower rate of interest, providing they have a long time to run. It is now believed that Secretary Sherman will request Congress at the coming extra seasion to pas such a movement into effect. Recent reports from Lor don show that the 442 per cent bonds are now being sold so rapidly that the remaining one hundred and sixty milions will probably be disposed of during the pre-ent year unless they are withdrawn and a 4 per cent

WASHINGTON NOTES. Washington, Friday, April 6, 1977. The Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs of the Orthodox Friends were at the Executive Mansion to-day and presented a memerial on the subject of Indian affairs. The memorial strongly exhibits the good I coults of the work of the Friends and enlarges in favor of a continuance of a peace policy. Commissioner Smith accompanied the delegation. Among those present were by J. E. Elboads of Finladelphia, who was chairman, J. Whitail of Philadelphia, B. Totham, and W. B. Collins of New-York, F. T. Kang and Dr. J. Carey Thomas of Baltimore, Josiah Nicholson of North Carolina, J. Buther and G. K. Jenlinas of Onice, C. F. Coffin of Indiana, Marray Shipley of Cincinnati, A. Doan and B. C. Hobbs of Indiana, and T. Harley of Kanses. Stanley Pumphrey of Engined was also present. The President expressed himself gratified with the favorable report and pleased to have not the committee. He concurred with them in the opinion that the salaries of agents should be increased, but gave no special indication of what his general Indian policy would be. results of the work of the Friends and enlarges in favor

The Pest-Office Department has prepared, and will in few days send out advertisements inviting proposals for the performance of mail service on about six hundred routes, for terms ranging from one to four years from the first day of next September. Bids will be received until Jan. 9.

The friends of Addison Low, recently removed from the position of Steamboat Inspector at New-York, have asked for a rehearing in his case, and their application Secretary Schurz left Washington for New-York this

morning for the purpose of bringing his family to this city, and will return on Monday.

THE POSTAL CARD CONTRACT. ABSENCE OF A COMBINATION IN CONTROLLING THE AWARD-CARD FROM ONE OF THE COMPETING

FIRMS.
To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Three times during the past week reections have been made upon our Louse in your Washington dispatches regarding our connection with the postal card contract. When the Post-Office Department called for samples of paper for the postal card, samples were submitted by a number of manufacturers, all of whom had an equal chance, no favor being shown. We submitted a sample of a double-tinted card, one side being a buff and the other a Nile green, and this sample was selected by the Department, as being superior to

others in all respects.

The tints are delicate and beautiful; the paper is hard, firm, strong, and highly finished, the surface being equal to the finest quality of writing paper, and equally equal to the pen, penell, or printing. The postal card printed upon this double-tinted paper would be much more difficult to counterfeit than a single-finted card, and the Department was fully justified in the selection which it made. There was not, as your correspondent states, any ring

or combination to control the contract, as far as we know; certainly we were not interested in any. It looks to us very much as if a combination has been formed in the interest of Fourdrinier paper machines, which can make only the single tint paper, to prevent the adoption of the double tini, and at the same time to exclude from competition cylinder paper machines, which are best adapted to making heavy paper such as is required for the postacard, and thereby defeat our enterprise, which enabled us to furnish a paper of better quality and finer appearance to furnish a paper of octar quanty and many other manufacturer. It is not true, as stated, that no other mills have the machinery to make a double tiot paper, several mills having made paper in the same way and sold it freely in the market; but not being able to compete with us in this quality of manufacture, the combination have made this statement to exclude from competition this class of goods in favor of their own in-

ferior product.

The Postmaster-General has been persuaded by these people that the adoption of the double that would increase the cost of the postal cards above the present price; but we are prepared to execute the contract at a figure so much less than the present price as to save the Government fully \$\$140,000 on one billion of cards, the estimated consumption for the coming four years. Should the combination succeed in inducing the Department to advertise for bids in such a way as to exclude paper made on any but a Fourdrinier machine, it would be in marked contrast to our proposition publicly made for the Department to advertise for bids on both single and double thits made by any and all machines, thus showing our confidence in our own ability to manufacture the double tint about as cheaply with our improved machinery as our competitors can the single tint in their more antiquated mills. If by means of this combination the Department should be induced to return to the old style of card, it would be a triumph of Ring influence and business torpidity over honeat enterprise—this latter being the very thing the Government proposes to encourage. Yours, &c..

Res-York, April 6, 4877.** WILKINSON BROS. & Co. sier-General has been persuaded by these

FOREIGN NEWS.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S RETIREMENT. THE CHANCELLOR'S REPRESENTATIVES TO BE AN-NOUNCED-AUSTRIAN MISGIVINGS-THE PRINCE

BERLIN, Friday, April 6, 1877. The appointment of Herr Camphausen and Herr von Bulow as representatives of the Chancellor in his several functions will shortly be announced by Imperial order.

Up to noon to-day the Emperor's decision regarding Prince Bismarck's application had not been pronou The North German Gazette categorically denies that there has been any disagreement between the Emperor and Bismarck as to the extent Germany should support Russia, also that Bismarek's resignation is due to an in-tended change of attitude towards the Papacy, to the

LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877. A special dispatch from Vienna to The Times says:
"Prince Bismarck's long furlough has produced great

regret here not unmixed with something like misgiving for the future." PROSPECTS OF A COMPROMISE.

LONDON, Saturday, April 7, 1877. The Standard's Berlin correspondent telegraphs the following: "Aithough no decision has been actually reached, I have reason to believe that Prince Bismarck reached, I have reason to easier with a limited leave of absence, provided the organization of the Imperial and Prassian Governments is thoroughly changed. Prince Bismarck wishes to remove all the Ministers, except Falk and Kameeke, and substitute State secretaries who fully share his views, especially those relative to railways, taxation, and economic legislation. Possibly through the mediation of the Crown Prince a compromise may be arranged which will satisfy Bismarck's most ardent desires."

THE RUSSO-TURKISH CONFLICT.

LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877. The Times's special from Cettinje says that at the nterview on Thursday Safvet Pasha informed the Montenegrin delegates that their demand would be referred to the Turkish Parliament.

The Pesther Lloyd. a strongly pro-Turkish journal, says Prince Gortschakoff has sent a note to the Porte demanding acceptance of the protocol and compliance with Russia's requirements concerning disarmament, reform, etc. Gortschakoff asks for a catagorical answer before the 13th inst.

The Belgrade special dispatch of The Times says there scems to be a general impression among the members of the Servian Secret Society that Russia will take some de cisive step on the 5th of May, St. George's Day.

The Pall Mall Gazette, in an article considering the effects of the protocol, concludes as follows:

effects of the protocol, concludes as follows:

Grave danger to peace hes in the fanaticism—or patriotism—of the new Turkish Parliament, and the protocol
and attendant declarations do not diminish it. If their
general tendency is to soothe Russian susceptibilities,
they are at the same time calculated to exasperate or to
harden the Turks.

A Renter dispatch from St. Petersburg says the maintenance of peace will depend principally upon England's
endenvers to remove any doubts still existing at Constantinople that the political influences actively at work
on the Bosphoras against the maintenance of peace
count not expect official support from England, and

must not expect official support from England, and must understand that the latter power will in every way

must understand that the latter power will in every way streamously oppose them.

The Trans's Phileppanolis correspondent says: "The dark ramors which were current this time last year are neath, revived. The Mussalmans have recommenced threats, the same as preceded the last massacre. The inhabitants of Lyvor, a village only three hours distant, have been informed that they had only a fortuight to tree. The Christians are greatly alarmed, and everywhere the same uneasiness is current as elsewhere."

Paris, Friday, April 6, 1877.

The evening papers display uneasiness in discussing the present phase of the Eastern Question. La France says the Porte is resolved to frustrate by incessantly russing obstacles all negotiations between Russia and Turkey. It appends to Explana to present these maneuvers in Constantinopie.

The Turkish Vice-Consul here has been removed because of the honors he paid Eidhat Pusha during the latter's allower.

cause of the honors he paid Eidhat Pasha during the latter's afour in Napies.

THE DIRECT CABLE COMPANY. LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the Direct United States Cable Company held to-day, Mr. Pender's resolution favoring an alliance with the Anglo-American Company was carried by 2,060 against 1,670 votes. The directors then resigned and were succeeded by the following: Messrs. William Ford and John Fender, Directors of the Globe Company; the Rev. Lord Hawke and Mr. E. M. Underdown, members of the com-mittee; Capt. Mayne, R. N.; Messrs. Bury, Meara, and

> THE ERIE RAILROAD. LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

The Times, in its financial column, says: "The Eric Reconstruction Trustees have announced that over £240,000 has been paid on account of assessment on the preference and ordinary shares. This represents nearly haif the share capital. The bondholders of the various classes have also given their adhesion to an extent repre-senting \$29,000,000 out of \$61,000,000."

THE POPE'S DECLINING HEALTH. LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

The Times's correspondent at Rome writes to that paper as follows: "That the Pope is now climest constantly carried where, months ago, he used to walk, may indicate a serious decline in strength, but I am told that carrying is more a procaution than accessary. One of the Pope's brothers died in consequence of an accidental fall, and the fainling fits to which Plus Is liable may easily result in a similar catastrophe. His Holines may live to see his Episcopal Jublice, but certainly never before was the anticipation of approaching danger as evident as now. To be prepared against any emergency, Cardinal Simeoni is about to move into the apartments on the upper floor of the Vatican formerly occupied by Cardinal Antonelli, in order that the rooms on the lower floor, where many of the arrangements for the conclave of 1773 are still existing, may be prepared so that the election of the next "ope may be held without a moments unnecessary delay. It is remembered that a majority of conclaves have been obliged to assemble during the Summer." may live to see his Ep'scopni Jubilee, but certainly never

COMMUNISTS' SCHEMES IN FRANCE. Parts, Friday, April 7, 1877.

The Défense, a Clerical and Orleanist journal, reports that Communist refugees in Switzerland have succeeded in introducing firearms in several Departments of France, with a view to a future uprising. The Government has ordered a more complete surveillance of the frontier.

MINISTER SIMON LIKELY TO RETIRE. LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

The Standard's Paris dispatch states that Minster Simon suffers from a nervous irritation, which produces such prostration that he will probably take another fortnight's holiday. The semi-official note announcing this is thought to forceshadow M. Simon's resignation in consequence of increasing difficulties.

KING OF DAHOMEY'S FINE. LONDON, Friday, April 6, 1877.

The Manchester Guardian states that the King f Dahomey has made overtures to the British for peace. He is willing to apologize but declares that he is unable to pay the fine of 500 puncheous of palm-oil imposed by the British Commodore, and asks that the fine be reduced to

EXCITEMENT IN JAMAICA.

KINGSTON, March 29 .- Great excitement has been created throughout Jamaica by the indictment of Mr. Gall, editor of The News Letter, for seditious language contained in attacks on Sir William Grey, who was Governor until the 12th inst., when he left for Et-gland. Public subscriptions have been raised to defend

QUEBEC, April 6 .- About three inches of snow fell last night. The ice at Cape Rouge shows signs of weakness, and is expected to make an early start. HAVANA, April 6.-The Banco San José has suspended payment temporarily, being unable to meet the checks presented to-day. The deposits amount to \$1,500,000.

OTTAWA, April 6 .- The House of Commons has, by a vote of 119 to 67, rejected an amendment abolshing the duty on tea in favor of others which would aid home industry.

LONDON, April 6.-Finzel & Sons of Bristol. who sometime ago closed their sugar retinery, which was said to be the largest in the world, have placed their affairs in the hands of their creditors. The liabilities of the firm are estimated at \$2,500,000. An arrangement is probable.

HoNolulu, March 10 .- The British steamer Fantom returned March 10 from Hawaii, having left Keolukeoku Bay Monday, March 5. The volcanic erap-tion ceased immediately after the departure of the Kilanea, continuing in operation not more than 24 hours.